

ARGUMENTS

The Examiner's Objections and Rejections

Applicant has noted the Office Action's objection, rejections, and bases for same. For the following reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims are in a condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the arguments and remarks as set forth below and pass the application to issuance.

35 USC §112, First Paragraph Rejections

Claims 21 – 65

The Office Action has rejected claims 21, 37, and 51 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Office Action provides that claims 21, 37, and 51 recite a limitation that lacks proper antecedent basis.

Applicant has amended claims 21, 37, and 51 to correct this. Specifically, claim 21 has been amended at lines 29 and 32 (of the mark-to-show version of claim 21 supra); claim 37 has been amended at lines 29 and 32 (of the mark-to-show version of claim 37 supra); and claim 51 has been amended at lines 28 and 31 (of the mark-to-show version of claim 51 supra). All six amendments are to delete "upper" from "upper armature cavity," as proper antecedent basis exists for "armature cavity."

35 USC §103(a) Rejections

Claims 21-24, 37-40 & 48-50

The Office Action has rejected claims 21-24, 37-40, and 48-50 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Without conceding that the rejection of these claims is proper, Applicant has amended claims 21 and 37. As claims 22-24 depend from claim 21, which Applicant contends is patentable, claims 22-24 are also patentable. Similarly, claims 38-40 and 48-50 depend from claim 37, which Applicant contends is also in a patentable condition. Claims 38-40 and 48-50 are therefore also necessarily patentable.

For the aforementioned reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 21-24, 26-40, and 42-65, as amended are in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Remarks

In view of the foregoing discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Applicant affirms that the amendments described immediately supra do not include any new matter and are submitted only to more accurately describe that which Applicant believes to be the invention.

Date: June 8, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael A. Baffa', written over a horizontal line.

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